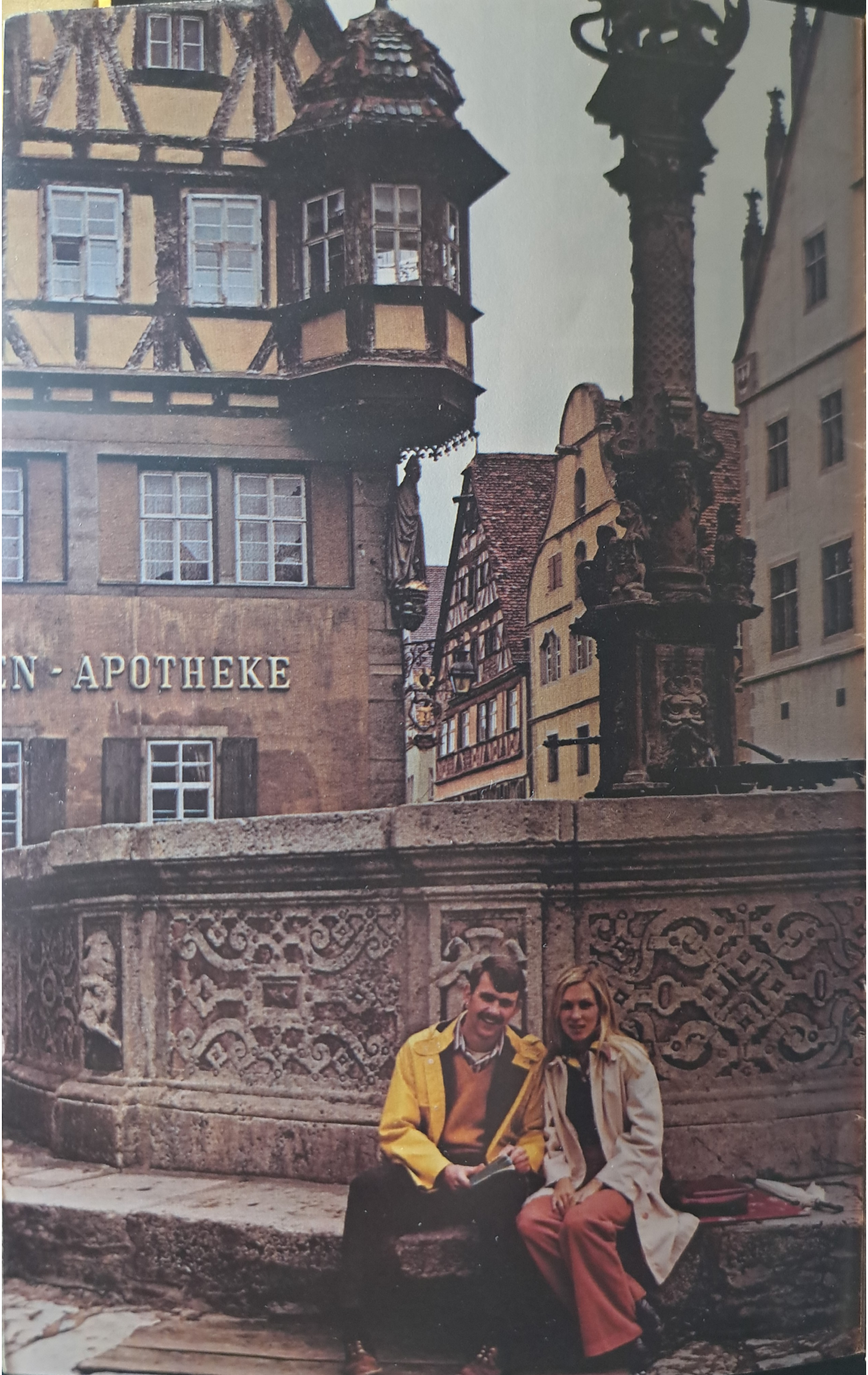
THIS IS THE ARMY IN EUROPE


N - APOTHEKE

WHY ARE WE THERE IN THE FIRST PLACE?

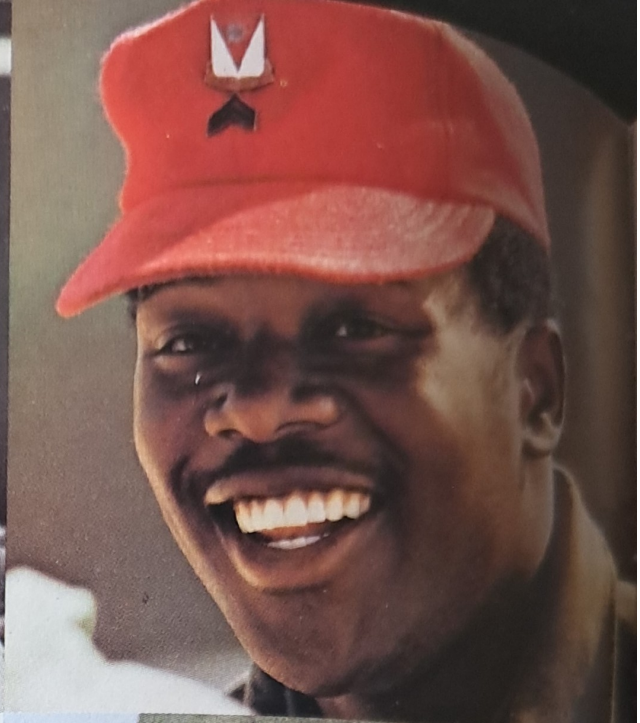
We are there to discourage wars. We are there to respond quickly to flare-ups between nations. We are there so everyone can see us there. And know we're serious about honoring our NATO commitment, defending our interests, as well as the interests of our friends.

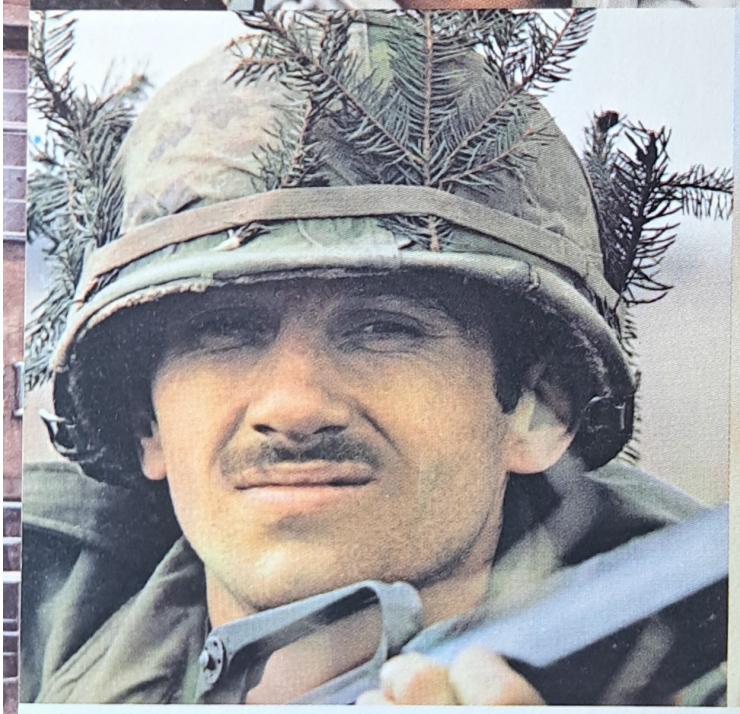
We are there to help preserve the cultures and ways of life that give each European country its own unique personality. Would Holland still be Holland without wooden shoes and windmills? Would Germany still be Germany without beer and oompah bands?

We are there to help protect the churches and towns and castles. The farms and hills and forests that inspired tales of silver skates and spinning wheels, of wolves and witches, gingerbread houses and pumpkin carriages, princes and paupers and flaxen-haired beauties.

And we're there, above all, to help protect the people. Mothers, fathers, children and grandparents. Shepherds, bandsmen and businessmen alike.

If you ever get to Berlin, you'll know why we're there. The Wall, the police dogs, the tangles of rusty barbed wire, the guards bristling with guns. They're a day-to-day reminder that some people in this world are not content to let others live the way they would like.





WHO'S THERE FROM HERE?

"Hey, don't I know you from somewhere?" That's a phrase you can hear every day. With over 300,000 Americans in Europe, you're bound to bump into someone you know or someone who reminds you of someone you went to school with.

Most of your time will be spent with your fellow soldiers, young people like you, sharing the same experiences and interests. Today's Army in Europe is made up of people from

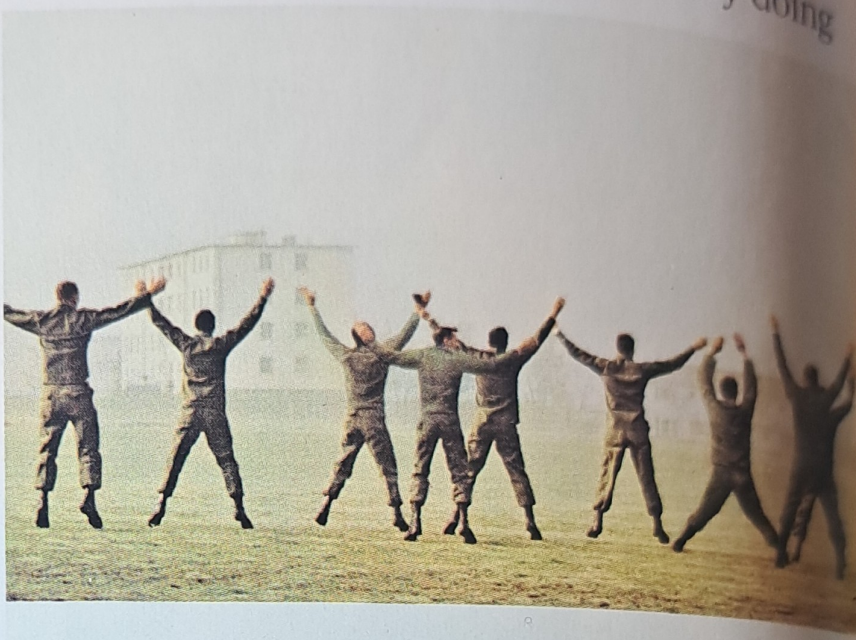
all over the United States. The soldier working beside you may be from your home town or from a city thousands of miles away.

It isn't hard to get to Europe in the Army. All it takes is an appetite for hard work and adventure (not to mention good food), and the ability to say, "Hey, I'd like to go to Europe."

WHERE ARE THEY, AND WHAT ARE THEY DOING THERE?

Most of our men and women are stationed in more than 300 cities and towns scattered all over West Germany. Then there are a few others, specialists mainly, stationed in Turkey, Greece, Belgium, Italy, The Netherlands and Great Britain. An assignment to Europe means spending at least 18 months in one of these locations.

What are they doing



there? Everything the U.S. Army does wherever it is. And, because the Army in Europe is a "ready" Army, it means extra responsibilities and hard work. Starting with daily exercises and going from there to combat training, maintenance, transportation, medical work, communications, clerical work, supply, food service, whatever. There are many specialties, but you'll find most of our soldiers out in the field doing what they're trained to do.

MOVIN' OUT. DIGGIN' IN.

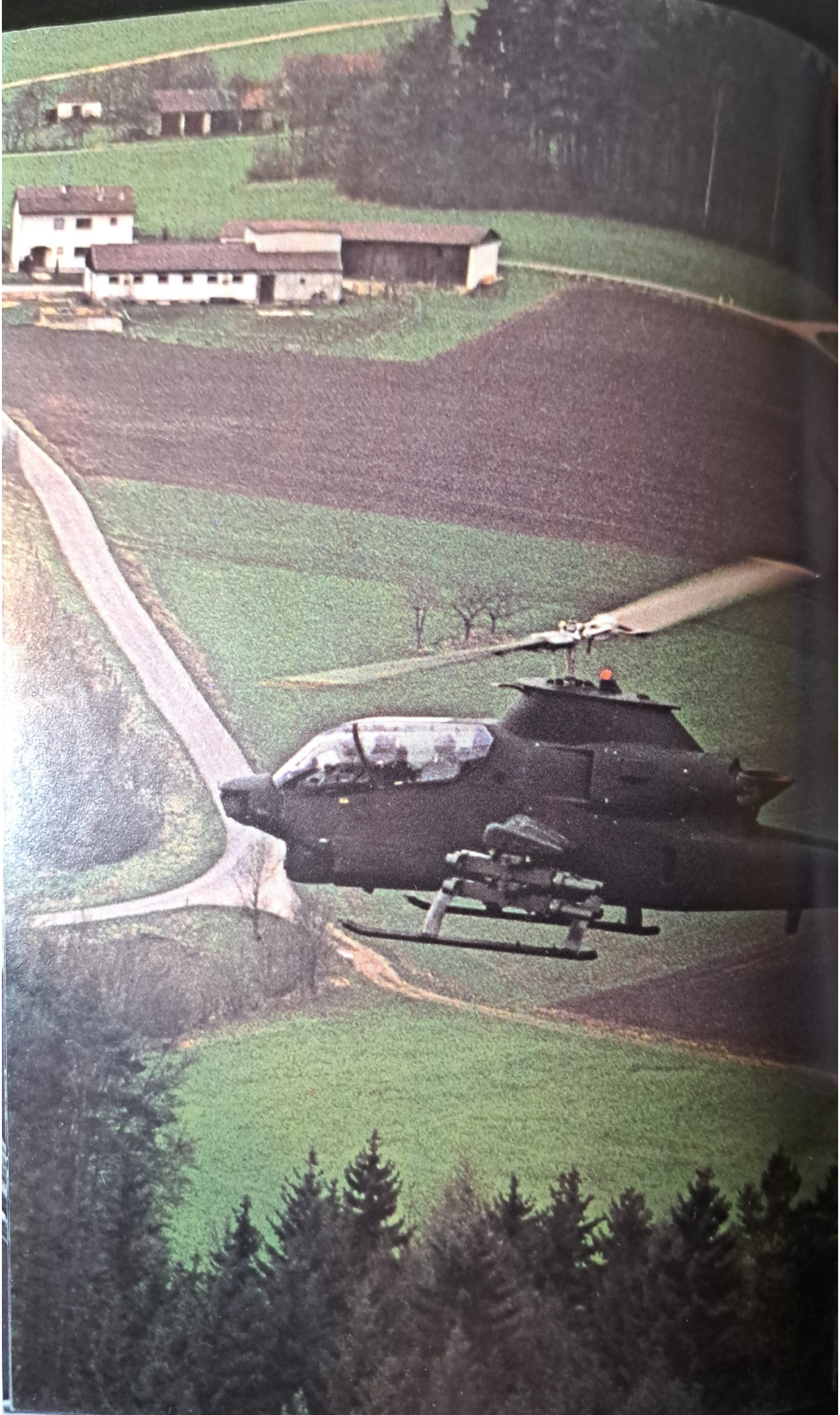
When today's infantry in Europe moves out, there's no slogging single file along muddy roads for days on end.

We move out to our ranges in jeeps and trucks. We move out on tactical training maneuvers by air in helicopters. And by land in our versatile armored personnel carriers. Mobile strongboxes that zip along at 25 mph, with mounted .50-calibre machine guns and armor plate for protection.

When we get to where we're going and we're digging in as the night comes down, it's comforting to know that today's infantry soldier in Europe is smart, professional, highly trained, and well equipped. The state of readiness, around the clock, demands no less.

We don't just put you behind a gun and throw you to the wolves. We have instructors to make you expert.

Plotting fire direction data in the back of an armored personnel carrier for a squad of mortarmen.



Today's infantryman has air support to think about, too. The Cobras with their 40mm cannons, 2.75-inch rockets, 7.62 miniguns, anti-tank weapons, are available on radio command from the troops in the field. Call them in, and in minutes you hear their thucka-thucka-thucka, a whistle and a roar, and they're gone before you even know they were there.

HUMPING JOES.

That's artillery for loading the projectiles fired from our 155mm howitzers and 8-inch self-propelled howitzers. (You'd swear they were tanks.)

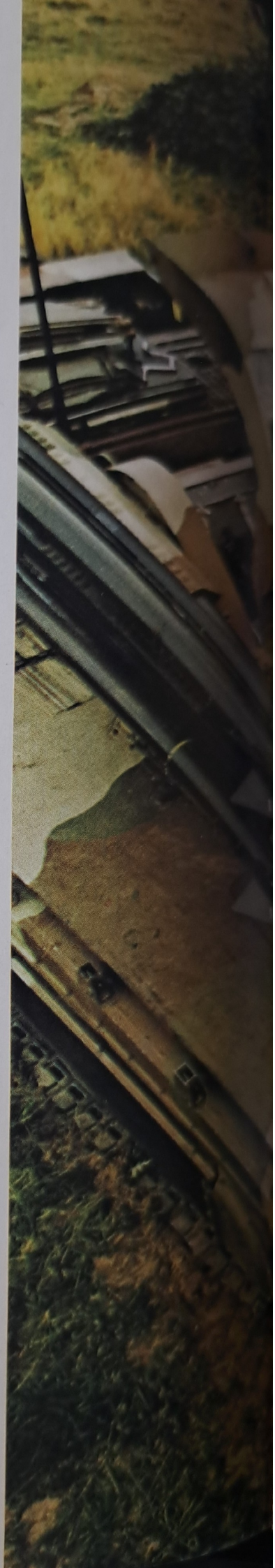
Artillery, where they love the crack and ring of the tube and the smell of burnt powder in the air. Where they're out practicing live fire night and day, in all kinds of weather, at Grafenwöehr (Graf is close enough).

Whether you're talking field artillery or air defense artillery, it's a real team effort with real esprit de corps. Each team in the battery has to work as one, with forward observation the eyes, fire direction control the brains, and the rockets and guns the guts.

Whether you're a gunner, a surveyor, a meteorologist, or an assembly specialist, you learn that others depend on you to do your job right.

Each team will be damned if they'll let the rest of the battery down.

And then there are top NCOs, like the Chief of Smoke, who provide their own brands of incentive. Professionals teaching you how to be one.



A 155mm self-propelled howitzer on one of the artillery ranges at Grafenwöhr.

U S ARMY
1 3 E575

Hawk ground-to-air defensive missiles at Hanau, Germany.

(Above) A skilled Army technician maintains part of the air defense radar system.
(Left) The Chaparral, part of the Army's air defense weapons system.

BRAVO

HITTING THE DUSTY TRAIL.

Our M60 monsters with their 105mm snouts are things of beauty only to the guys who ride them, fire them, clean them and care for them.

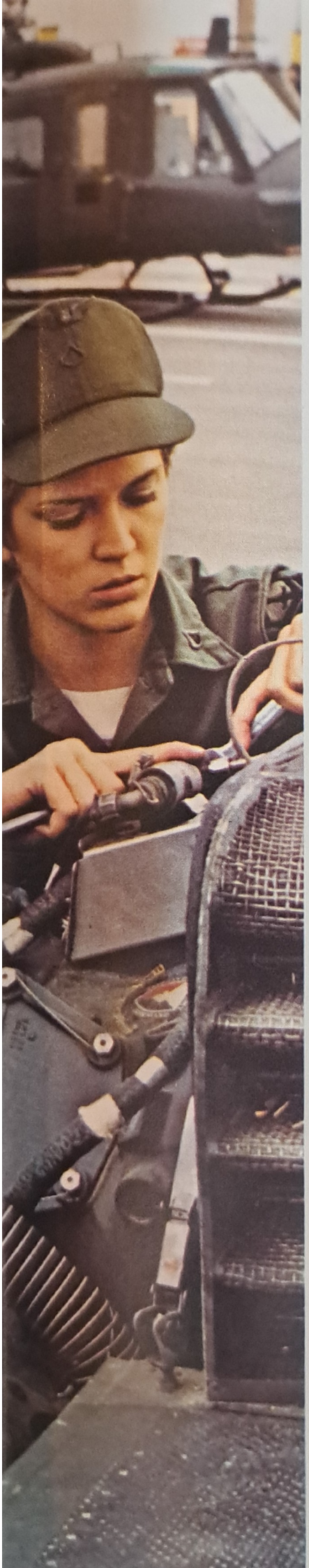
Who else would call them Cracklin' Rose, Chiquita, Choking Red and other terms of endearment?

In Armor, everything is on a different scale. The tools are oversize. If you hit something with a hammer, you hit it twice as hard.

It takes a crew of four men to clean a gun tube. Men who respect the tat-tat-tat of the coaxial 7.62s (machine guns) splintering silhouette targets on a hillside. The thudding of the .50 calibre machine gun against the

rusted bones of a burned-out jeep. The feeling, when the 105 goes off, of the tank shaking and their ears popping. The sight of that red ball of flame flinging itself at a target down range.

If you've never felt invincible, you've never ridden in a tank.



PUSHING AND PULLING AND PATCHING UP.

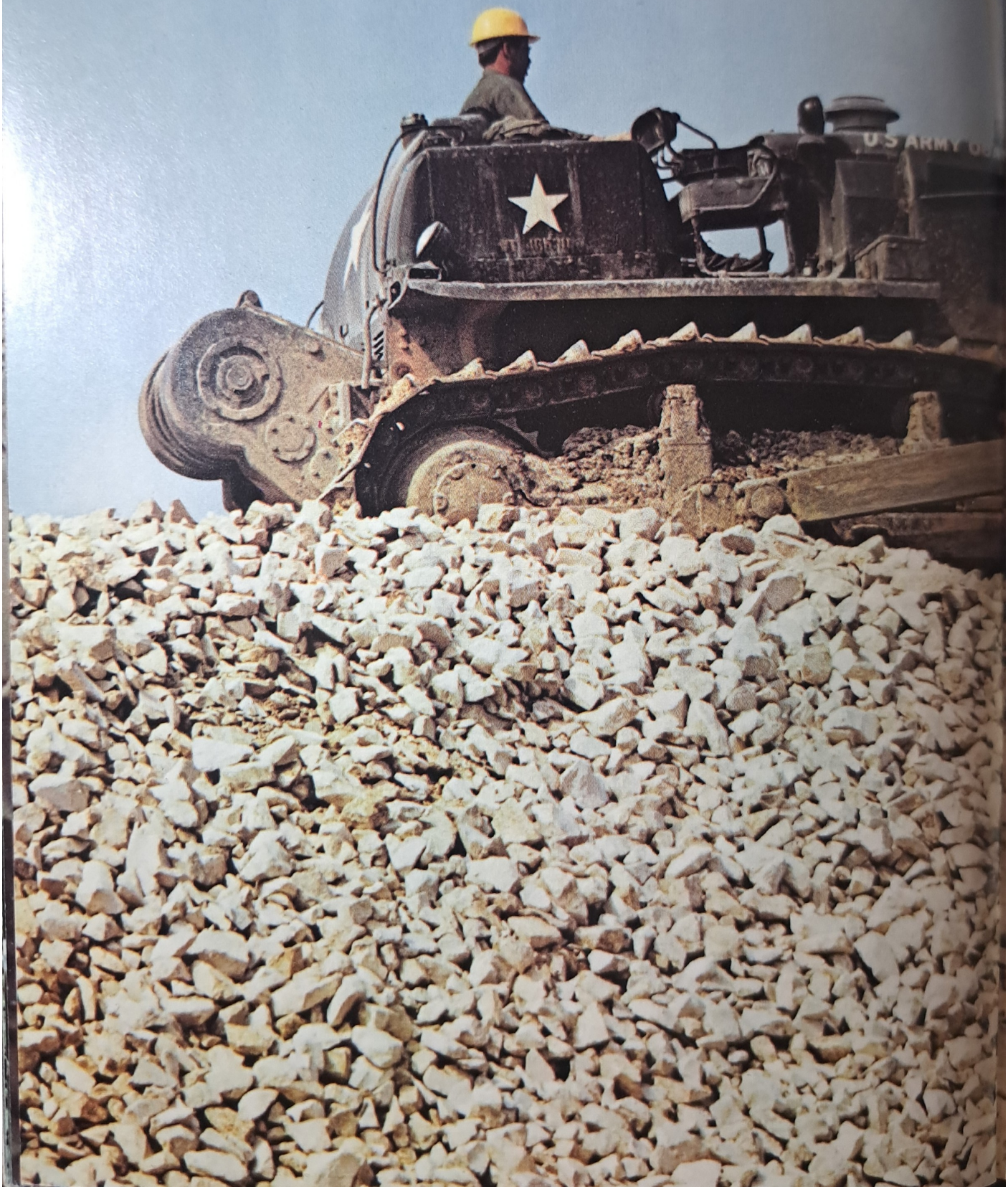
Today's Army doesn't move on frontline troops alone. We need supply and maintenance people to keep pushing from behind. With tanks and tracks that roll, choppers and missiles that fly, communications and electronic equipment that works. With ammo and food and clothing for the troops. With diesel and MOGAS and JP-4 for the trucks, jeeps and planes.

Today's Army in Europe needs soldiers who like to work with their hands. Men and women who can appreciate a sweet-sounding chopper engine or a generator that roars to life on the first pull. People who can handle a mobile workshop loaded with the latest and finest power tools.

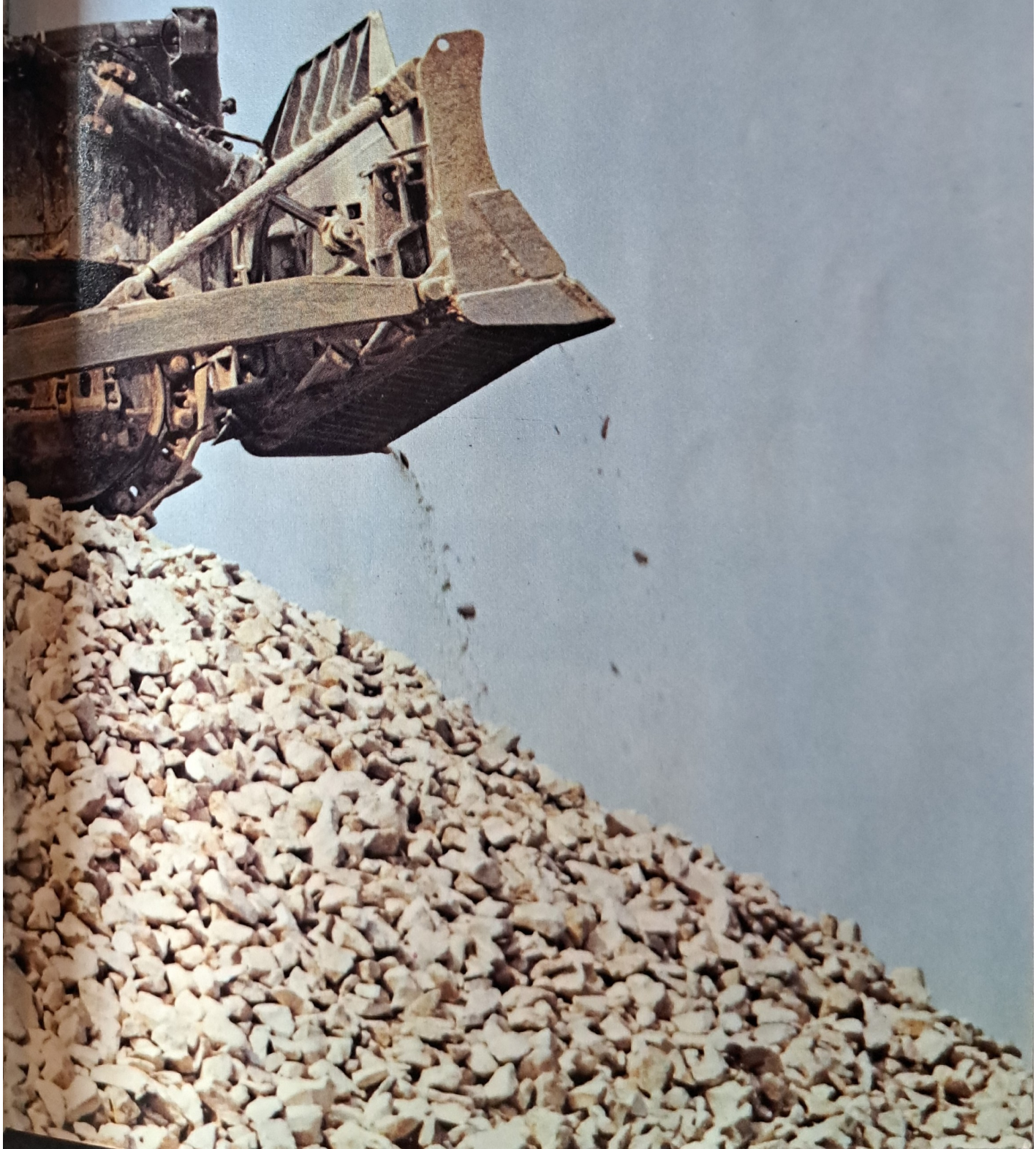
We need communications experts who can keep frontline troops in constant contact with rear echelon strategists. Specialists to work the switchboards in mobile "patch vans" and the teletypewriters in cryptographic "rat rigs," sending and receiving coded messages and making sure they get through.

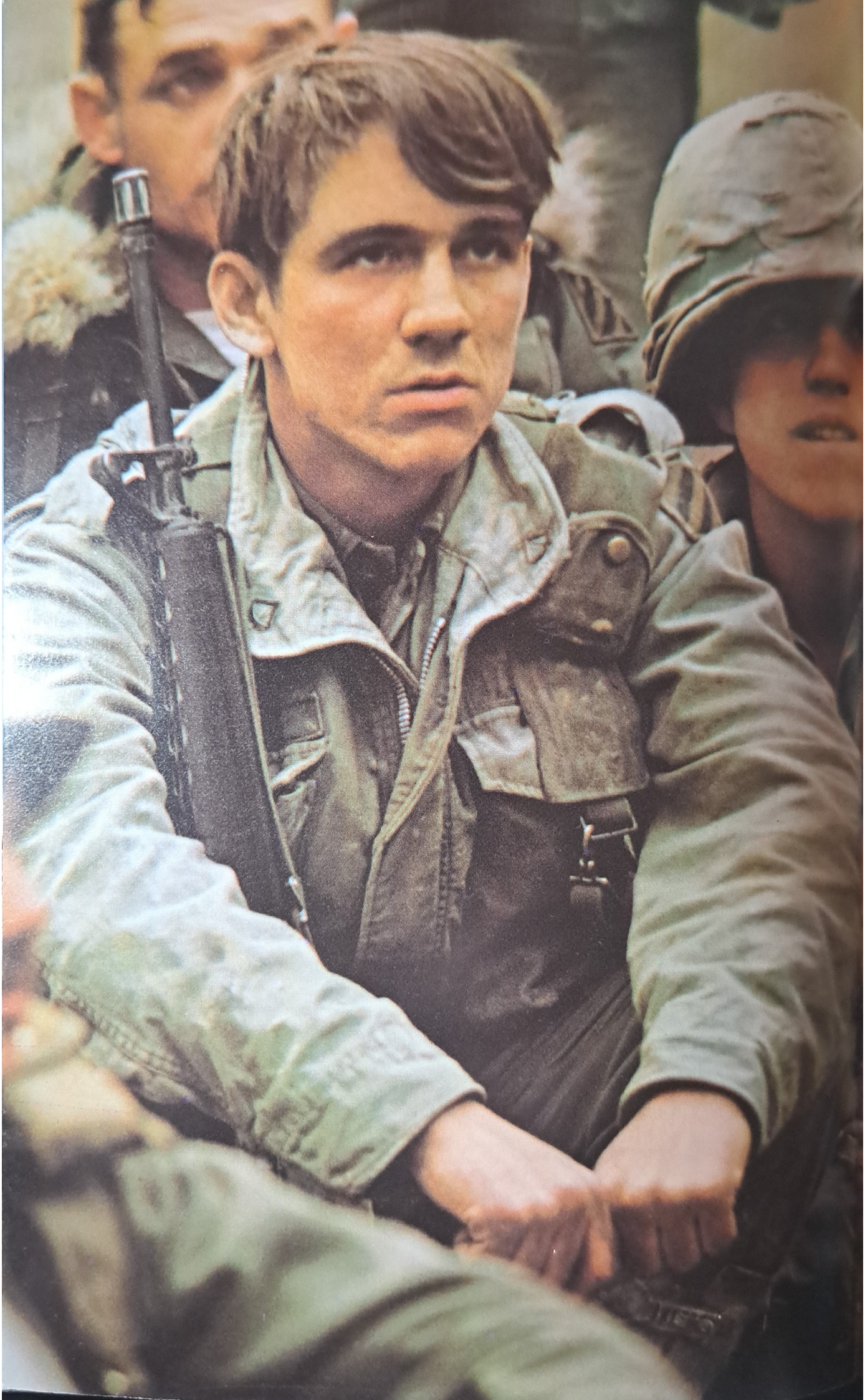
We need cooks to dish it out, and clerks to type it up. We need MPs to handle physical security at our posts. To reconnoiter and set up traffic control points for troops in the field. Sharp-looking soldiers who are proud of their work and proud of themselves.

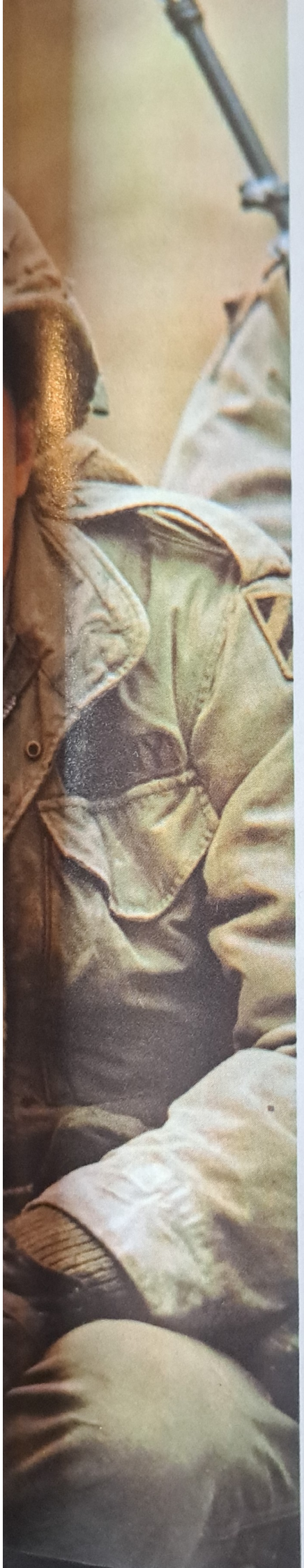
Today's Army in Europe needs roads and buildings and bunkers and bridges to keep it moving. And that means it needs people to operate heavy construction equipment. Such as a crawler tractor, better known in civilian life as the bulldozer. You don't just hop into one and drive it like a family sedan. It takes weeks of stateside training to put you



behind the controls of 24 tons of dozer. But by the time you're finished training, you're ready to grade roads, surface runways, knock down trees, build up dams, drain swamps, and take steep hillsides in stride. In fact, they say there are a thousand and one jobs you can do with a dozer. And running a dozer is just one of the jobs you might be doing in the Army in Europe.







WRAPPING UP THE DAY.

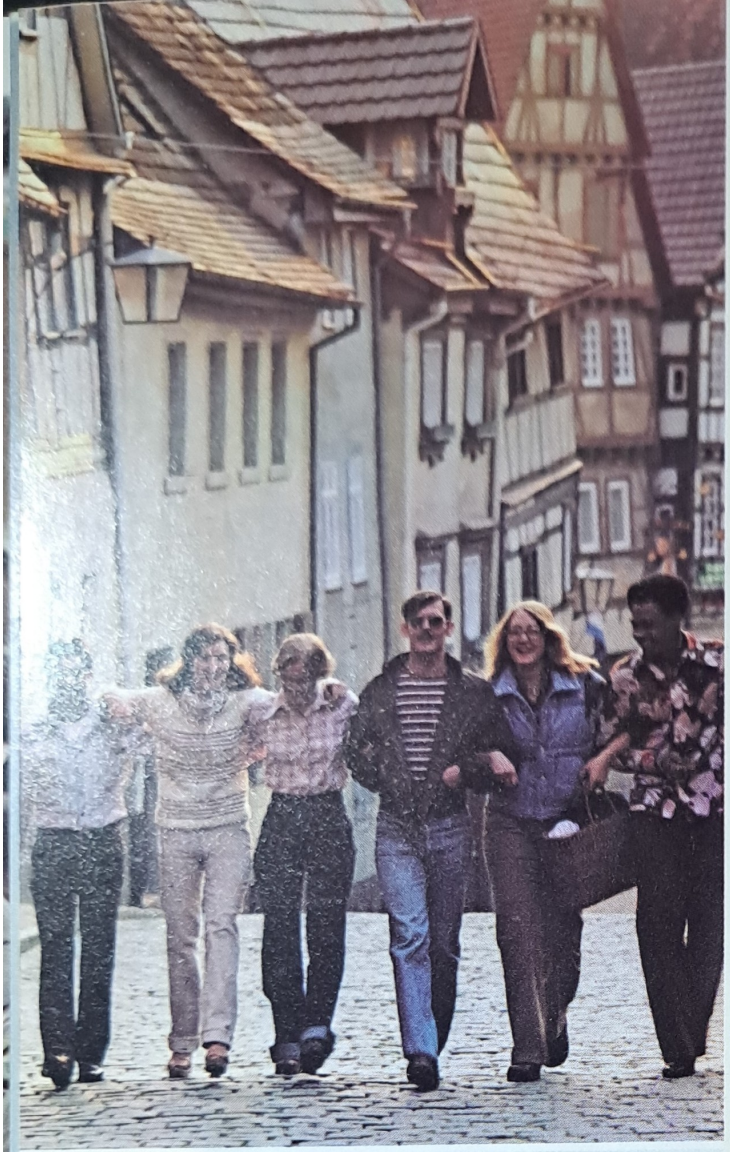
There's an intensity in the Army in Europe. You can see it in the faces. A greater concentration on work, without the distractions of life back home.

There's a camaraderie. A closeness that comes from sharing new experiences with new friends in a country far different from your own.

There's an excitement, an anticipation, at the beginning of each new day that lasts until that day's final exercise comes to a close.

And you begin to feel the lead in your arms and back and feet. And your mind unwinds into thoughts of soft things and warmth and something to fill the emptiness in your gut.

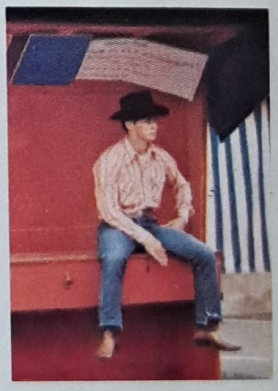
And you begin to feel good about yourself.



AND WHAT DO THEY DO AFTER THAT?

Don't get the idea that what free time you have in Europe is spent window-shopping in Paris or frolicking on the Riviera. Those are maybe once-a-year occasions.

You're not in Europe as a tourist. You're there as a soldier to do a job. A tough job. Most of our men and women in Europe find plenty to do in the towns where they're stationed. There are movies, and discotheques, beer halls and boat rides down scenic rivers. There are famous castles and cathedrals to see, and thousands of good, affordable restaurants.



There are skydiving clubs, motorcycle clubs, and model airplane clubs to join. And, when you do have a free weekend, you can round up some of your friends and go to a great-looking place you saw in a travel folder. You have probably heard that the U.S. dollar buys less in Europe than it used to. True, but the Army is making up for it. With more and better Army-sponsored bus trips. With language instruction you can take in the evenings.

Then there are the two famous rest and recreation areas in the Bavarian Alps, Garmisch and Berchtesgaden, where prices are reasonable. Where you can learn to ski, learn golf or tennis or sailing, or just relax in the clean mountain air and sunshine.

When you take advantage of these extras, the money you'll make during the time you're in Europe is nothing to sneeze at.

IS EUROPE REALLY ANYTHING TO WRITE HOME ABOUT?

It is if you feel like sharing a great, maybe once-in-a-lifetime, experience with someone who isn't there to get it first-hand.

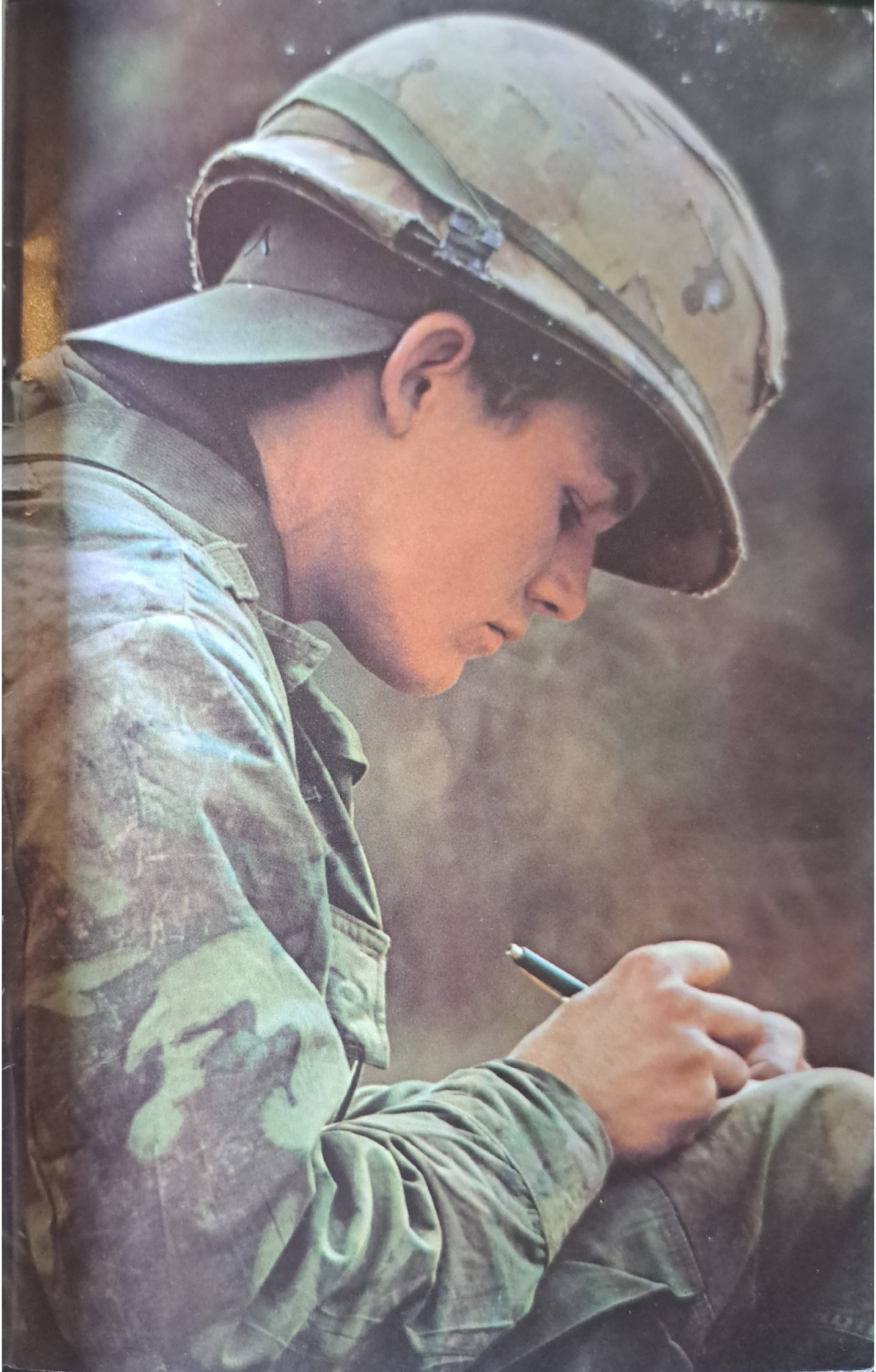
You'll have a chance to visit places and see things you may otherwise only read about in history books. You'll have a chance to see how other people in the world live. Learn their languages first-hand. Share experiences with them. You may even learn to like some of their customs better than ours. The European experience will stay with you for the rest of your life. You'll find yourself talking about it long after you return home.

You may also like the type of Army we've got in Europe. It's a little more real. Being a few miles away from the Czechoslovakian border, instead of stashed comfortably somewhere in mid-America, keeps you on your toes.

When you come right down to it, being in the Army in Europe is what you make of it. If you can accept the commitment of living and working in a foreign country for two years or more, and take advantage of all there is to see and do, then Europe could be for you.

Should you enlist for Europe? Think about it. Talk it over with your local Army Representative. You could be a better person for it, and we, a better Army.

Note: Information in this publication is subject to change. See your Army Representative for the latest information.



JOIN THE PEOPLE WHO'VE JOINED THE ARMY.

NOTE: INFORMATION IN THIS PUBLICATION IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE. SEE YOUR ARMY REPRESENTATIVE FOR THE LATEST INFORMATION.

PREVIOUS EDITIONS MAY BE USED UNTIL EXHAUSTED.

RPI-280 JULY 1979. U.S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE, 1979, 650-022/1